

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Supplemental to the amendments to the specification made in the September 7, 2005 Amendment, please replace the Summary of Invention section on page 2, line 25 through page 7, line 11 with the following amended section:

--The above-mentioned object can be attained, according to the present invention, by the following configuration.

There is provided an inventory management system including a first storage unit, adapted to store inventory information indicating an inventory number of an expendable which is mounted in a printer and can be replaced, the inventory number being subtracted based on replacement of the expendable in the printer, a receiver unit, adapted to receive absence information indicating that the inventory number of the expendable is zero or less than a predetermined number and an instruction unit, adapted to provide, to an external apparatus via a communication line, a delivery instruction for delivery of a new expendable to the printer. Also included are a second storage unit, adapted to store history information indicating a history of the delivery instruction provided by the instruction unit and an alarm sending unit, adapted to send an alarm to the external apparatus via the communication line when a new reception of the absence information is received by the receiver unit, after the instruction unit provides the delivery instruction for delivery of the new expendable, if the history information is present in the second storage unit, but does not send the alarm to the external apparatus even when a new reception of the absence information is received by the receiver unit, if the history information is absent in the second storage unit ~~a first storage unit, adapted to store inventory~~

information indicating an inventory number of an expendable used in a printer, a receiver unit, adapted to receive absence information indicating that the inventory number of the expendable is zero or less than a predetermined number, and an instruction unit, adapted to provide a delivery instruction for delivery of the expendable. A second storage unit is adapted to store history information indicating a history of the delivery instruction provided by the instruction unit, and an information unit is adapted to inform an alarm based on (1) the history information stored in the second storage unit and (2) a new reception of the absence information received by the receiver unit, after the instruction unit provides the delivery instruction.--